THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (c) According to Reserve Bank of India the number of bank dacoities and the amounts involved therein as reported to it by the public sector banks for the 4 months period—November 1986 to February 1987, along with information relating to number of persons apprehended, is as given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

District	Name of the Bank	Date of robbery/ dacoity	Amt. involved	No. of Persons arrested
AMRITSAR	Punjab & Sind Bank, Sohalthathi.	23-1-87	0.38	..
BHATINDA	State Bank of Patiala, Virk-Kallan.	19-12-87	0.13	..
	State Bank of Patiala, Behniwal.	9-1-87	Nil	..
JALLANDHAR	Bank of India. Indusutrial Area.	20-1-87	4.02	..
LUDHIANA	Punjab National Bank, Industrial Area.	12-2-87	568.91	..
	Bank of India. Extn. Counter, Dakha.	2-2.87	0.45	..
PATIALA	State Bank of Patiala, Gurdwara Dukh Niwaran Sahib, Patiala.	20-11-86	2.94	..
ROPAR	UCO Bank, Singh Bhagwantpura	29-11-86	0.50	..
	State Bank of Patiala.	17-12-86	Nil	..

(d) Security measures adopted in bank branches are reviewed from time to time and steps are taken according to necessity to improve the existing security arrangements. It would not be in the public interest to disclose details of the steps taken to strengthen securiy arrangements.

Schools for smugglers

2627. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many informal 'schools' for smugglers have sprouted in many Asian countries;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether it is also a fact that many carriers of smuggled goods have confessed that they were trained for this; and

(d) what concrete measures have been taken or are proposed to be taken by the Government to destroy these training schools for smugglers even with the help of Interpol?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a), (b) and (d) Government has no information on the running of any 'school'

for training smugglers in many Asian countries.

(c) Reports received by the Government indicate that carriers of contraband gold particularly who conceal gold inside their body cavities are made to practice in keeping contraband in their person for several hours before they actually carry the contraband into India. This sort of training is organised by financiers and agents abroad who arrange the smuggling of gold through carriers.

Evasion of customs duty by M/s. Standard Motors Product of India

2628. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Bureau of Investigation has recently detected frauds worth crores of rupees during the searches conducted on the business and residential premises of the Directors of M/s. Standard Motors Product of India, New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether M/s. Standard Motors Products of India has evaded customs duty to the tune of crores of rupees; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take against the Directors and Managing Directors of the firm and full details of the evasion of customs duty and other frauds detected by CBI?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) and (b) Central Bureau of Investigation have carried out searches of certain premises connected with M/s. Standard Motors Product of India and are investigating into complaints of fraud and evasion of duty.

(c) Appropriate action under the law woud be taken against the defaulters on the basis of findings in the investigation after it is completed.

Armed police guards for currency chests

2629. SHRI D. B. CHANDRE GOWDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has again impressed upon the State Governments and Union Territories the need for providing armed police guard for currency chests;

(b) whether it is a fact that some State Governments are not following the directions of the Central Government for providing armed police guards for currency chests; and

(c) if so, what further measures Central Government propose to take with the State Governments in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI) : (a) to (c) All currency chest branches of public sector banks are guarded by armed guards. In addition to other security measures, where necessary, help of armed police guard is also being taken. Within the resources available State Governments are fully cooperating in providing security for currency chests.

Detection of uranium smuggling gang

2630. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a whether it is a fact that smuggling uranium gang was detected in the second week of December, 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to check such incidents?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) and (b) As per information collected from Police